

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Maa, Shalong

Application No.: 08/833,342

Art Unit: 3713

Filing Date: April 4, 1997

For: "Computer-Controlled Talking Figure Toy with Animated Features"

#20 Mr. Neg Confirmation
W. Morgan
3/2/00Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicant submitted, on Jan. 10, 2000, via first class mail, as attached hereto, a correspondence including "Acceptance of Decisions on Petitions", "Status Inquiry - Request for Confirmation of 'Non-final' Status of Office Action Dated 08/02/99", a "Confirmation of 'Non-final' Status of Office Action Dated 08/02/99 - Interview Summary" form to be completed by the Examiner and returned to Applicant, and a postcard. Applicant has received the returned postcard, but there has been no written Confirmation of 'Non-final' Status of Office Action Dated 08/02/99 from the Examiner, as requested by Applicant.

Applicant has not received second Office Action in response to Applicant's "Request for Reconsideration Under 37 C.F.R. §1.111" filed October 27, 1999 either. Thus, in order to avoid unintentional abandonment of the application, Applicant hereby, again, respectfully requests written Confirmation of "Non-final" Status of Office Action Dated 08/02/99. Should it be deemed necessary, Examiner may have said written Confirmation sent to Applicant via both first-class mail and facsimile. Applicant's fax number is (916) 314-8644.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that, on the day shown below, this correspondence is being:

Transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office, via (703) 305-3579 / 3580


SignatureDate: Jan 31, 2000Shalong Maa
(Type or print name of person certifying)FAX COPY RECEIVED
JAN 31 2000
GROUP 3200

PATENT

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In re Application of: Maa, Shalong

Application No.: 08/833,342

Art Unit: 3713

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For: Computer-Controlled Talking Figure Toy with Animated Features

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231**

Enclosed please find the following items:

I. ACCEPTANCE OF DECISIONS ON PETITIONS**II. STATUS INQUIRY - REQUEST FOR CONFIRMATION OF "NON-FINAL" STATUS OF
OFFICE ACTION DATED 08/02/99****III. CONFIRMATION OF 'NON-FINAL' STATUS OF OFFICE ACTION DATED 08/02/99 -
INTERVIEW SUMMARY**

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- Deposited with the United Postal Service in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231
- Mailing with sufficient postage as certified first class mail, with Certification No. 7 205 236 015
- Mailing as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee", Mailing No. _____
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SignatureDate Jan 10, 2000Shaleng Maa
(Type or print name of person certifying)

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Washington, D.C. 20231

I. ACCEPTANCE OF DECISIONS ON PETITIONS

Applicant acknowledges the decision by Office of Petitions to dismiss Applicant's petition filed 10/27/99 requesting suspending rule under 37 CFR 1.183, as so informed in the Special Projects Examiner's correspondence dated 11/30/99 wherein sufficient supports thereof are provided. Thus, Applicant accepts the Decision.

Applicant also acknowledges that the foregoing acceptance of decision renders Applicant's Petition under 37 CFR 1.181, filed October 27, untimely. Therefore, Applicant also accepts Group Director's decision dismissing Applicant's Petition under 37 CFR 1.181, with traverse.

Applicant agrees that the examiner has not yet considered Applicant's request for reconsideration. However, although Sections II.(A-E) of the Petition are taken from the examiner's previous office action dated 08/02/99, Section II.(F) of the Petition is taken from "Examiner's Refusal of Proper Communication", which was repetitive as evidenced by EXHIBITS attached thereto. In addition, applicant believes that such communication problem still exists, as depicted hereinbelow.

II. STATUS INQUIRY - REQUEST FOR CONFIRMATION OF "NON-FINAL" STATUS OF
OFFICE ACTION DATED 08/02/99

As described in the Petition and in the Request for Reconsideration Under 37 CFR 1.111, filed 10/27/99, Applicant had several telephone conversations with the examiners regarding an error in

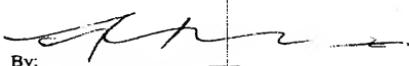
U.S. Application No. 08:833,342

the "Office Action Summary" in which the marking of "This action is FINAL" regarding said previous office action is incorrect, as agreed upon by the parties during said telephone conversations. However, Applicant still has not yet received written confirmation for correction thereof, as so requested by the Applicant, although the examiner did agree to do so during said conversations. As a result, Applicant currently does not have enough information to continue the prosecution based on documents received from the examiner.

Accordingly, applicant hereby respectfully request that the examiner provide written confirmation of the aforesaid "Non-final" status of said previous action by completing the attached form entitled "Confirmation of 'Non-final' Status of Office Action Dated 08/02/99" and returning a copy thereof to the Applicant, or by sending other paper that accords like effect thereto, such as a standard "Interview Summary" form, to the Applicant.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


Shalong Maa, Ph.D.

Date: Jan. 10, 2000

SMA International, Inc.
816 McDeavitt Dr., 1077
Arlington, TX 76011
(817) 277-9081

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(Examiner's Signature)

(Printed name)

Date: _____

(Applicant's Signature)

Shalong Maa

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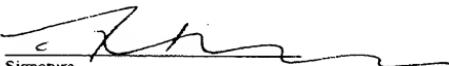
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Shalong Maa
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